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QUADRENNIAL REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I AND II

Quadrennial reports, 1988-1991

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DISABLED PEOPLES' INTERNATIONAL

(Category II)

As a consumer movement, Disabled Peoples' International has as its organizational mandate the third of the three tenets of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: the realization of full participation of disabled persons in social life and development and of equality.

While DPI justifiably describes itself as a self-help movement, it is well aware that the goals of integration can only be achieved in collaboration with all sectors of society, including those individuals who make legislation and carry out policies. The cooperation between the Economic and Social Council and DPI over the past four years has been of less significance financially than it has been in terms of raising public awareness and changing the attitudes that hinder integration. With the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and the World Programme of Action, the United Nations provided its fundamental endorsement to a view of disabled persons as full and equal participants of their community; language couched in charity was transformed into an expression of human rights. In the past four years, DPI member organizations, established primarily during the Decade, are capitalizing on the global trend to effect change within their own countries.

DPI's expanding membership, from 72 countries four years ago to approximately 100 today, indicates the success of DPI in developing a grass-roots response to the World Programme of Action. The changing political climate in Europe and in the Middle East has had a direct impact on its growth in those regions. DPI accepted its first member from Eastern Europe in 1991, and the DPI affiliates are eager to establish a regional office. It will likely not be long before the fledgling organizations follow the trend of their other DPI members and transform the philosophy of the Programme of Action into concrete plans for legislative change. DPI's own national membership surveys, as well as a United Nations Decade survey, confirm that the vast majority of DPI members are lobbying for more inclusive government policies.

The focus on the Decade and the Programme of Action becomes very evident when some of the themes of the regional training seminars held in Asia/Pacific, Africa, Europe, North America/Caribbean, and Latin America are reviewed. They have been: Equalization of opportunities through community-based services, From care to self-help: community-based approaches to equalization of opportunities (organized in collaboration with ESCAP), The implementation of the United Nations World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, Legislative change, and Human rights and disability.

In each case, the strategy of DPI was to inform representatives of the disability movement who would in turn take responsibility for the information flow to the grass roots. In most regions this process is further encouraged through other areas of training and programmes to legislate equality rights, for which practical steps and advocacy training is offered. In Asia/Pacific,

the ongoing collaboration with ESCAP has lead to the regional endorsement of a second Asia/Pacific decade of disabled persons, which is intended to fulfil some of the aspirations defined by disabled persons in the first Decade. The Latin American region published the World Programme of Action in a special edition of its newsletter to ensure widespread access to this important advocacy tool.

On the international level, DPI has sent numerous reprsentatives to meetings of the United Nations, including the Inter-Agency meeting held annually in Vienna; meetings regarding human rights, in particular as pertains to the rights of persons with mental disabilities; and meetings with the Vienna Division for the Advancement of Women, through which it encouraged the inclusion of disabled women in its programmes. The DPI's Women's Committee helped to facilitate the organization of an experts meeting of disabled women in 1991.

DPI played an active role in the experts meetings on the Decade, (Stockholm, 1987; Finland, 1990, and Vancouver, United States, 1992). It also participated in a working group to draft the Standard Rules of Equalization of Opportunities and DPI attended the General Assembly on an annual basis in order to provide its perspective on the Decade and other relevant areas.

DPI membership has further benefited from direct contact with United Nations organs. For instance, DPI has co-hosted training seminars with the ILO in each of the regions. In southern Africa, the ILO has made a long-term commitment to the training and employment of disabled women. DPI members have also worked with the WHO in the planning of community-based rehabilitation programmes and in reviewing language use. Recently, the DPI-Africa chairperson participated in a meeting on community-based rehabilitation with WHO, UNDP, UNICEF and the ILO. Several DPI members are receiving direct support through UNESCO. While DPI is very pleased with the remarkable progress made through its cooperation with these United Nations bodies, it is still looking forward to the full integration of disabled persons in their regular programmes and projects.

DPI is particularly grateful to the Economic and Social Council for the financial support it has provided in the past four years to DPI's international activities. They include DPI's very successful World Congress, which was held in Vancouver in 1992 in conjunction with "Independence '92" and the research on income-generating enterprises being conducted in collaboration with the Walter Dinsdale Centre.

As the Decade comes to a close, it is clear that one of the greatest achievements of the past 10 years has been the establishment of a true movement of disabled persons. DPI appreciates the collaboration of the Council in making this possible.

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION (IEC)

(Category II)

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the world authority for standards in the electrical and electronics industries. Its standards encourage technological progress and promote compatibility of goods and services in the electrical and electronics fields. They are used as a basis of national rules and standards in more than 100 countries.

IEC currently has 43 member countries. The most recent are Singapore (1990), Malaysia (1991), Thailand (1992) and Luxembourg (1992).

Cooperation with the United Nations and its agencies

In the past three years, IEC has participated in and observed the work of the following United Nations agencies, in particular through various technical countries: International Telecommunications Union (especially in coordinated standards programmes); WHO; World Intellectual Property Organization; ILO; UNCTAD; UNESCO; UNIDO; ECE - in particular, through work on information technology; IAEC and GATT, in support of eliminating technical barriers to trade. During the same period, IEC cooperated with the United Nations itself in the field of electronic data transfer under the aegis of ECE.

Other issues

In conjunction with the International Standards Organization, IEC is currently studying the question of introducing environmental concepts into its standards programmes through its Strategic Advisory Group on the Environment. Furthermore, in response to public concern on environmental issues, the IEC Council called on its technical committees to include an assessment of the impact on the environment of any new technical work item submitted to IEC.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (IPIECA)

(Category II)

IPIECA has a very active Climate Change Working Group, and the international negotiations towards a Framework Convention on Climate Change, under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, have been the mainstream event on which the Group has been focused. Since February 1991, IPIECA has been represented at, and reported on, each of the Committee meetings. In addition, it has continued to attend all plenary meetings and the Science Working Group meetings, at which the key work on greenhouse gas emission inventories is taking place.

In 1991 IPIECA held a workshop in Lisbon which brought together eight internationally recognized experts and a group of 11 IPIECA observers. The workshop covered the fields of science, economics, energy and environment and policy. It defined research options and appropriate institutions for potential industry sponsorship, especially in socio-economic policy planning. The success of the workshop culminated in a broader-based symposium through which industry information and viewpoints will be shared and discussed with an audience involving key players in the international debate. The symposium - Climate Change: a petroleum industry perspective - will be hosted by Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi. The proceedings, which will be distributed in late 1992, will place on record the information provided by the wide interests and geographical perspectives of industry and institutional speakers at the symposium.

The IPIECA Global Climate Working Group organized two other technical seminars on the global climate issue, both within the context of regular IPIECA meetings. The first, hosted by Pertamina in Indonesia, took place in September 1991 and drew together information on the science, energy and economic aspects of the issue. It provided a valuable opportunity to have South East Asian perspectives, through presentations from institutions in China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Thailand. The second, to be held in Caracas, in February 1992, will focus more sharply on energy efficiency-related aspects and provide information on industry and government initiatives in Brazil, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. The keynote address will be delivered by the Deputy Secretary-General of OPEC, and regional perspectives will be provided by representatives from Brazil, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. Regional overviews will be provided by the Latin American Organization for Energy, CONCAWE (Europe), American Petroleum Institute and Petroleum Association of Japan. A furtner seminar, in preparation for the Malaysia meeting in September 1992, is being designed to add the dimension of reflections since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Working Group on cleaner production/waste minimization

The Working Group has met three times during the year. The main focus of activity has been the preparation process for the cleaner production seminars. The first 1991 meeting was held during the seminar in Indonesia and involved presentations of case studies from the exploration, production, transportation, refinery distribution and marketing sectors. Copies of the presentation slides have been made available to several external organizations. Preparations for a second seminar, which will take place in Malaysia in September 1992, are already well advanced. Papers and presentations on this occasion will explore in more depth the application of cleaner production concepts to several key areas of petroleum and petrochemical activities. This will include refinery effluents, product storage, natural gas production and the production of Methyl Tertiary Buthil Ether and ethylene/polyethylene.

The American Petroleum Institute published Waste Minimization in the Petroleum Industry: A Compendium of Practices. Reviews of the booklet by several IPIECA members has confirmed the universality of the compendium, and arrangements were made for 100 copies to be provided as an industry contribution to the International Cleaner Production Information Clearing House process. IPIECA will be presenting a paper at a seminar on cleaner production to be held in Australia early in 1992.

Contacts have been maintained with the Geneva-based secretariat for the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes etc. The Convention was ratified during the year, and a full secretariat in support of a Conference of the Parties and all related structures has been established.

Waste oils of petroleum origin are covered by the Basel Convention. An IPIECA working group to prepare technical guidelines on the management of waste oils has been established, and IPIECA has agreed to examine industry source material for this process.

Oil spill preparedness and response

In November 1990, under the umbrella of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), an International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation was agreed by 90 IMO member States. During the negotiating process the international oil industry, through IPIECA's Oil Spill Working Group, worked with the IMO secretariat to create a framework for close industry/government cooperation. This was directed to a Convention requirement for cooperative effort for development of national and regional contingency planning processes and related oil spill response education and training activities.

Late in 1990, agreement was reached for a joint IMO/oil industry programme of senior executive industry/government seminars through which there would be cooperative examination of the key elements of the Oil Spill Response Contingency Processes. The first seminar, organized by IPIECA and the host company, took place in September 1991 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The meeting was hosted by Pertamina and involved senior industry and government representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Papua New Guinea, Viet Nam and the Philippines.

A critical IMO/industry appraisal of the seminar confirmed initial confidence in the format which involves professionally moderated exchanges between international and regional experts and the senior industry and government executive participants. The dialogue is supported by carefully integrated video and slide materials.

A second seminar will be organized by IPIECA with the involvement of industry and government representatives of all Mediterranean coastal States. It will be held in Cairo in April 1992 and will be hosted by the Egyptian General Petroleum Company, with significant input from the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC).

Based on the perceived success of the Cairo seminar, arrangements will be made for an October 1992 seminar in Caracas, Venezuela, for the Latin American mainland countries. It will be hosted by Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. A seminar in Libreville, Gabon, hosted by Elf Aquitaine, and a Gulf seminar hosted by GAOCMAO and Saudi Aramco are already in preparation for 1993. Tentative plans are being made for the 1994 seminars which most likely will cover the regions of East Africa, North Eastern Asia and Australia/Polynesia.

TRICKLE UP PROGRAM

(Category II)

The mission of the Trickle Up Program ("Trickle Up") is to help end poverty by creating new opportunities for employment and economic and social well-being among low-income populations of the world. Founded in 1979, Trickle Up has given nearly 150,000 very poor people the opportunity to create businesses that they have planned and managed themselves. By offering $100 in start-up capital and basic business training to groups of five or more people, Trickle Up creates opportunities for change among the world's poorest populations.

The Trickle Up Program is a process for starting micro-enterprises which is shared with other non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies for use in their development stategies. These organizations, employing the Trickle Up process in their income-generating programmes, are known as Trickle Up coordinators. Trickle Up provides them with training materials, programme support and services, and financial support. With their decision to volunteer their services to Trickle Up, coordinators demonstrate their commitment to the poor in their communities and encourage the development of the programme.

As of 31 December 1987, 5,563 Trickle Up businesses had been started in 67 countries; as of 31 December 1991, 23,014 Trickle Up businesses had been started in 93 countries. The business information reported is recorded in a computerized database. This provides accountability and programme information on action and results related to poverty reduction. The annual income for 1991 was $1,109,000. Primary sources of funding include individuals (37 per cent); foundations (33 per cent); Governments, including the Government of the Netherlands, Ministry for Economic Cooperation (17 per cent) and the United States Agency for International Development (3 per cent); corporations (6 per cent); organizations (1 per cent); and other (3 per cent).

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

Trickle Up representatives attended and actively participated in all NGO/DP annual conferences, and served on the NGO Executive Committee. Trickle Up presented a statement to the high-level meeting on technical cooperation among developing countries, at United Nations Headquarters, 20 September 1989.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

Trickle Up cooperates with UNDP and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development. Their support over the past years has taken the following forms: coordinator workshops; development and production of training material for coordinators; an external evaluation of Trickle Up based on field visits; publication and dissemination of information about Trickle Up; a 27-minute video film about Trickle Up businesses, entitled "If Given the

Opportunity"; a feature article in UNDP World Development Annual Report, 1987 via the article, "Creating a better climate for private enterprise"; and publication and distribution of a document from the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development about Trickle Up, entitled "Liberating the potential of the poor", in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish.

UNDP representatives in countries visited by the presidents and programme officers of Trickle Up have cooperated by convening meetings with groups of coordinators or potential collaborators and generally helping to disseminate information about Trickle Up. As a result of these efforts, Trickle Up has been introduced to indigenous NGOs who have become coordinating agencies. In 1988, the UNDP resident representative in the Philippines convened a meeting of 55 NGOs who met with the President in Manila; he met again in 1990 with 25 NGOs. UNDP resident representatives have convened Trickle Up meetings in Argentina, Brazil, Malawi, Mexico and Sierra Leone. UNDP resident representatives have themselves served as Trickle Up coordinators in Guatemala and Honduras, as has the assistant resident representative in Madagascar. UNDP country funds are used to fund Trickle Up businesses in Benin.

United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) work as coordinators to encourage self-employment with the Trickle Up funds and technical systems support in nine Asian countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand), and in 11 African countries (Benin, Gambia, Guinea, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe).

The countries in which Trickle Up businesses have been started are: (Africa) Benin (UNDP, UNESCO, UNV), Burundi (UNHCR), Equatorial Guinea (UNDP), Gambia (UNV), Guinea (UNV), Kenya (UNDP), Namibia (UNV), Senegal (UNIFEM and UNDP), Sierra Leone (UNDP and UNV), Sudan (UNICEF), Swaziland (UNDP and UNV), Togo (UNV), Uganda (UNV), United Republic of Tanzania (UNV), Zambia (UNV), Zimbabwe (UNV); (Asia) Bangladesh (UNV), India (UNV), Indonesia (UNV), Lao People's Democratic Republic (UNDP), Malaysia (UNV), Nepal (UNV), Pakistan (UNV), Philippines (UNICEF and UNV), Sri Lanka (UNV), Thailand (UNV), Vanuatu (UNV), Viet Nam (UNICEF); (Caribbean) Haiti (UNDP and UNICEF), Jamaica (UNDP); (Central America) Belize (UNICEF), Costa Rica (UNDP), Guatemala (UNDP and UNICEF), Honduras (UNDP); (South America) Brazil (UNDP).

Other relevant activities

Trickle Up has supported the passage of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In 1989, Trickle Up representatives met with 20 NGOs in the Dominican Republic at a meeting convened by the United Nations Institute for Research and Training for Women. A Trickle Up training workshop sponsored by the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa was convened in Nairobi, 12-17 August 1988. Thirteen coordinators from nine countries produced "Trickle Up training

tools". Trickle Up cosponsored the Symposium on Africa Food Security and Women Farmers, held at United Nations Headquarters during the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, on 13 September 1991. Trickle Up also participated in symposiums in 1988, 1989 and 1990.

Since 1990, Trickle Up has been working in Sudan through the kind of offices of UNHCR, UNDP and WFP.

In 1990, Trickle Up representatives took part in UNICEF's World Summit for Children and participated in the coalition of NGOs for Candlelight Vigils. Trickle Up representatives met with UNHCR Deputy Commissioner and the staff of the ILO in Geneva in 1990.

UNION OF ARAB JURISTS

(Category II)

The Union of Arab Jurists has been active in its endeavour to support the Charter of the United Nations during the years 1988-1991 to achieve its objectives in the areas of human rights, peace, disarmament and the elimination of racial discrimination.

The Union continues to perform its activities through its status with the Economic and Social Council, UNESCO, as a member of the CONGO Board, of the Special Commission of the NGOs on Disarmament, and as an observer with UNICEF. It also works with the Centre for Human Rights.

AJU has been active in defending human rights, world peace and disarmament and in working against racial discrimination. It has also worked for enhancing the principles of the Charter by submitting proposals and papers to the meetings of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

On the occasion of the declaration of Human Rights Day, AJU organized a meeting in Baghdad, attended by a number of senior and prominent personalities concerned with human rights and politics. A symposium on teaching human law was also organized.

Annual and periodical activities

Over the period 1988-1991 AJU celebrated the following occasions: International Day for Women (8 March), International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March), Anniversary of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations (26 June), International Day for Solidarity with the People of Namibia (26 August), United Nations Day (24 October), Human Rights Day (10 December). On these occasions, conferences and seminars were held and attended by peoples concerned with human rights and politics. Notifications and declarations were issued on the defence of human rights, World Peace and Security.

On the issue of human rights and legal matters, the permanent secretariat of AJU held annual meetings in Tunis, Algiers, Amman and Baghdad.

During the past four years AJU issued and submitted many notifications and messages to regional and international organizations concerned with human rights and peace. The Union also exerted efforts to prevent the eruption of the Gulf War and to find a settlement based on a just and durable peace. AJU also participated in many regional and international conferences on human rights, freedom of people, child welfare etc. and submitted papers on these issues.

Despite the difficult financial situation of the Union, due to the economic blockage unjustly imposed on Iraq, it is carrying out its tasks without any interruption.

During the period under review, the Union of Arab Jurists participated in the following meetings: Commission on Human Rights (February 1988), NGO Subcommittee on the Status of Women (Geneva, May 1988), International Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Hiroshima, August 1988), Special NGO Committee on Disarmament (Geneva, April 1988), Commission on Disarmament (Geneva, September 1988), Seminar on the administration of justice, organized by the Centre for Human Rights (Geneva, September 1988), NGO Committee on Human Rights (Geneva, October 1988), Congress of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (Brussels, October 1988), Meeting of the ALESCO (Tunis, September 1988), Seminar organized by the Division for Palestinian Rights (Geneva, August 1988), Conference organized by the International Progress Organization, on "International law and human rights" (Geneva, May 1989), Conference organized by the International Council on Disability (Vienna, December 1990), NGO Committee on Human Rights (Geneva, February 1990), Second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (Paris, September 1990). The Union was also active in the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and participated in several NGO meetings on the subject.

WORLD ORGANIZATION OF BUILDING OFFICIALS

(Category II)

The objective of the organization is to advance education in the building sciences, through the dissemination of knowledge on technology and construction. It has the power to do all or any of the following:

(a) To disseminate information and views already available in regard to the primary object of the organization;

(b) To promote safeguards from potential hazards;

(c) To find ways of preventing fires in existing buildings and those under construction;

(d) To promote the concept of standardizing construction materials, equipment, appliances and related matters, in cooperation with other disciplines;

(e) To pool the resources of members in order to facilitate consideration of mutual concerns and of finding ways and means of promoting unification of legislation on building, fire and allied codes, procedures, practices and directives;

(f) To promote cooperation among skilled, scientific, professional and lay groups which have aims and interests similar to those of the organization;

(g) To encourage and promote in all countries the establishment of appropriate means of study and action and of communication among the citizens with respect to the advancement of the primary object of the organization, and in this connection, to encourage the formation in every country of national organizations of building officials.

There was no increase in geographical membership and no substantial changes in sources of funding.

Consultative status was received from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

In April 1988 the organization's president attended the eleventh session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements (Habitat) at New Delhi, India, and between 24 April and 3 May 1989 he attended the twelfth session of the Commission, at Cartegne De Indias, Colombia. Between 7 and 9 June 1989, the President attended the nineteenth session of the Working Party on Building of the Economic Commission for Europe at Vienna, Austria.

Between 9 and 13 April 1989, the Pacific Rim Conference of Building Officials was jointly hosted by the World Organization of Building Officials and the International Conference of Building Officials, at Honolulu, Hawaii. Between 24 and 29 September 1989, the International Conference on Municipal

Code Administration, Building Safety and Computers was jointly hosted by the World Organization of Building Officials and the Manitoba Building Officials Association, at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

On 2 October 1989, members of the World Organization of Building Officials observed World Habitat Day.

Between 22 and 26 October 1990 the Second World Congress of Building Officials was hosted jointly by the World Organization of Building Officials and the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (New South Wales chapter), at Sydney, Australia. The theme of the World Congress was "A world of buildings towards a safe, healthy and attractive environment". The opening speech was delivered by the Governor General of Australia, and a keynote speech was made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).

Between 5 and 7 October 1992 the Board of Governors of the World Organization of Building Officials met in London to discuss long-range planning with member organizations in the United Kingdom.

WORLD POPULATION SOCIETY

(Category II)

The World Population Society (WPS) is an independent, non-profit organization with a multinational Board of Directors. Founded in 1972, it advocates strong support by the United States and other national Governments and by United Nations agencies for policies and action programmes designed to slow population growth as an integral part of economic and social development. It promotes the fulfilment of the World Population Plan of Action and the recommendations of the International Conference on Population (Mexico City, 1984), encourages technical cooperation among developing countries, and fosters interdisciplinary approaches to population programmes. Since its last report it has directed much attention to establishing the integral relationships among population factors, development and environment, particularly in relation to the discussions at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in the drafting of Agenda 21 and, now, in its implementation.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

A representative of WPS participated in the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-First Century, organized by UNFPA in November 1989 and in the NGO group drafting recommendations for the Amsterdam Declaration issued by the Forum.

In April 1991 a member of WPS was selected by the United States Government to serve on the United States delegation to the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as the representative of United States NGOs engaged in population activities. The relevance of population to environment and whether it should be dealt with at the Conference and in Conference recommendations was being hotly debated. The responsibility of the WPS representative was to deal with this subject for the United States delegation. In October 1991 he participated in Globescope Americas, an international conference of population and environment specialists from the United States and Central and South American countries, arranged by the Global Tomorrow Coalition. As a member of a select committee of the conference, he joined in drafting its recommendations to the United Nations Conference secretariat for preparation of a secretariat paper on the relationship of population to consumption, environment and poverty. The paper was submitted to the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee and adopted with small modifications. It was later approved by the Conference itself and became part of Agenda 21.

In 1991 WPS obtained funding from foundations to prepare a 15-minute video designed for use with national leaders to convey understanding of the integral relation of population factors to environment and development. The video was completed in 1992 and presented in Rio de Janeiro by a representative of WPS. It will be used further in implementing Agenda 21. A

copy has been made available to the Secretariat as an illustration of a means of presenting information to attain United Nations objectives beyond the usual print medium.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

In 1988 WPS made a proposal, supported in part by USAID and generally by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, to carry out the recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action and of the International Conference on Population, by assisting developing countries in Africa prepare and adopt national population policies plus action programmes to implement them. That work was completed in Nigeria and Zaire and begun in Liberia and Togo. In 1988-1989 work continued in Botswana and in Zambia where a national population policy was publicized at a national population conference. In Benin, preparations were made for a national population conference to draft a national population policy. Unfortunately the effective collapse of the Government and closing of the university caused the suspension of the project. (USAID initiated a project called options for five years and $10 million to assist developing countries prepare national population policies and action programmes and followed it with a comparable second five-year programme, still in effect.)

In 1989 at the request of the Secretary-General of the Population Commission of Egypt, a representative of WPS assisted the Government in drafting a national population policy and five-year action plan. After this work, the WPS representative felt it was important for the Government of Egypt and the President, personally, to be made aware of the longer-range implications of population growth in Egypt and of the need to reach a replacement level of fertility as soon as practicable, moving towards stopping population growth. A computerized presentation for this purpose was drafted in 1991. A presentation was scheduled with the President for March 1992. At the last moment the presentation was assigned instead to the Prime Minister and six principal ministers. It recommended that Egypt attempt to reach replacement level through a 20-year programme. The recommendation was accepted, and activities to carry it out were initiated at once. This decision and action will not only benefit Egypt but also many other countries, because Cairo will be the locus of the United Nations Conference on Population and Development in 1994. Egypt's determination and action will no doubt influence many other countries represented there.

WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY

(Category II)

The World Society of Victimology is a not-for-profit non-governmental organization established to promote research about victims, assistance to victims, and advocacy of their interests throughout the world; encourage interdisciplinary and comparative research in victimology; and advance cooperation of international, regional and local agencies, groups and individuals concerned with the problems of victims. Its members include victim assistance practitioners, lawyers, social workers, physicians, university professors, students, government officials and national organizations for victim assistance.

There are 409 members from 51 countries. This represents a major increase in membership by country and within developing countries. For instance, there are more than 25 members from each of the four countries: Brazil, Canada, Germany and the United States of America. There are multiple memberships from the most populous countries, such as China, India, Nigeria and Russia. There are memberships from several other countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

The sources of funding continue to be membership fees plus occasional contributions from other sources such as the French Government and the Miyazawa Foundation in Japan.

WSV attends the major meetings organized by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, such as the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, and meetings of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

It organized major ancillary meetings at the eighth Congress on crime prevention, the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, drugs and traumatic stress. Written statements were submitted for the Congress.

WSV has been invited to attend meetings of NGOs by the United Nations programmes on these issues. It is contacted regularly by Governments and by the United Nations Secretariat for advice on both crime prevention and victim issues. Three reports were prepared for the Secretariat on the progress made in implementing the Declaration of Basic Principles, for instance.

Every three years WSV organizes a major international symposium on victimology, where the Declaration is given widespread distribution, discussion and assessment. The most recent was organized in Rio de Janeiro in August 1991, with attendance from more than 50 countries. The next is planned for Adelaide, Australia, in August 1994.

Articles are published about the Declaration in the WSV newsletter which comes out twice a year and in the International Review of Victimology, a scientific journal that is sponsored by WSV. There is a post-graduate course each year for students from all over the world which devotes at least one day exclusively to the Declaration.

WSV has also been active in the prevention of urban crime, which is now one of the three major axes of the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. WSV cosponsored the Second International Conference on Urban Security, Drugs and Crime Prevention, organized in association with networks of cities and the French Prime Minister's office. The conference brought 1,600 people from 65 countries together to develop proposals to make world communities safer from crime and provided some important concepts for United Nations work in this area.

WSV continues to be involved in the implementation of those concepts, while assisting in the development of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, to be affiliated with the United Nations and located in Montreal, Canada. The centre will focus on urban crime prevention, community-based policing and victim assistance to make communities safer from crime across the world.

Three vice-presidents of WSV prepared reports at the request of the United Nations Secretariat on aspects of the Declaration of Basic Principles. WSV cooperates on a monthly basis by telephone and fax with the Secretariat, and prepares reports and publications for it.

WSV is a small-budget organization and so does not provide financial assistance. However, members of the executive committee have been instrumental in obtaining funding for some students and conferences in developing countries.

WORLD TRADE CENTERS ASSOCIATION

(Category II)

The goals of the World Trade Centers Association (WTCA) closely parallel those of the United Nations. Established in 1968, WTCA's mission is to promote international trade, cooperation and communication; foster increased participation in trade by developing nations; help regions around the world establish their own world trade centres, and establish programmes of mutual assistance among trade centres.

With the support and leadership of WTCA, the world trade centre concept has spread to all parts of the world, encompassing people of every social, economic and political background, bringing them together for the purpose of achieving these goals.

Over the past four years, 75 new members have joined the Association. At present, WTCA has 241 member organizations, in 231 cities and in over 63 countries world wide. Over 60 of the members are located in the developing world. Approximately 75 have produced fully operating trade centres, and more than 25 others are currently constructing centres.

To implement its goals, WTCA is dedicated to further strengthening its existing programmes while working to develop new services. Over the past four years, WTCA has been very active in the following areas:

(a) Educational services. World trade centres around the world offer language instruction and training programmes on international business activities. New York's World Trade Institute is a fine example of the strides being made in this area. Last year, it trained approximately 8,000 business people in topics related to international commerce. A 210-hour International Trade Certificate programme is under development and will be available at world trade centres around the world in the near future.

(b) Trade missions. WTCA members work together on an ongoing basis to arrange and organize trade missions to different cities. Many world trade centres - most of them from industrializing countries - are currently working with the Center in New York to organize trade missions to the New York metropolitan area in October 1992.

(c) WTC Network. An innovative product of WTCA, the WTC Network is a computerized trade lead and message system. At present, use is offered by over 160 world trade centres and can be accessed in 75 countries with a local telephone call. The most remarkable feature of the system is the bulletin board, which functions much like an automated classified listing, except that it allows for direct and immediate interaction between buyers and sellers. Users advertise their products or services, find trading partners and conduct transactions, without leaving their keyboard.

Through special arrangements with trade publications and business newspapers around the world, WTC Network's bulletin board leads are printed

regularly in publications such as Journal of Commerce (United States), Les echos (France), Daily Trade News (Republic of Korea), and World Trade News (United Kingdom). This exposure increases the Network's potential readership to almost 4 million people.

The work of WTCA is carried out by nine action committees. One is the Industrializing Nations Committee, which was established to promote and assist world trade centres in the industrializing world. It works in a number of ways:

(a) It provides information on sources of funding and international project aid for WTC projects;

(b) It is a source of information and assistance on WTC development to the industrializing world (e.g., communication services, computerized/manual trade resources);

(c) It offers WTC personnel training and consultative services by the WTCA Planning and Finance, Trade Policy and Education, and Communications Committees;

(d) It develops ideas on pertinent projects in technology transfer, economic development etc.;

(e) It liaises with international development agencies and other bodies for the benefit of the industrializing world.

WTCA's Industrializing Nations Committee often works in support of the efforts of various United Nations organizations, including UNCTAD, GATT and UNDP. For example, the UNCTAD secretariat invited the chairman of the Committee to help it in its preparation for UNCTAD VIII.

Another WTCA committee that works in close contact with United Nations organizations is the Trade Policy and Education Committee, which researches pertinent issues affecting the growth of international business and provides practical ways to benefit from such analysis. It also has the responsibility of promoting the understanding of important trade and international business issues through information and education programmes. Committee members consult periodically with the Director General of GATT and with senior representatives and other delegates to GATT. The Committee met recently with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

WTCA itself is in consultation with UNCTAD regarding a United Nations effort to establish trade point centres - high technology trade centres located world wide, assisting local businesses to export their goods. Since the purpose and function of the proposed trade point centres are already embodied as part of fully operating world trade centres, there is a unique opportunity for cooperation that could result in a more effective and more efficient response to our shared goals.